



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

June 14, 2004

H.R. 3826 **Program Assessment and Results Act**

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Government Reform on June 3, 2004

H.R. 3826 would amend the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 to require the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to review, to the maximum extent practicable, each program activity in the federal government at least once every five years. The review would focus on the purpose, design, strategic plan, management, results, and other appropriate measures of each program. Results of these reviews would be submitted to the Congress. The authority to conduct these program reviews would expire on September 30, 2013. Finally, the bill would require agencies to submit comprehensive strategic plans to OMB by September 2005 instead of the following September.

Most of the provisions of H.R. 3826 would codify and expand the current practices of OMB regarding federal program assessments. OMB currently reviews program performance through its Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART) which was developed to assess and improve program performance throughout the federal government. According to OMB, PART will be used to review 20 percent of all federal programs annually over the next five years. To the extent that reviews lead to improved program performance, subsequent legislation could change the cost of program operations.

Based on information from OMB, CBO does not expect that changing the September 2006 due date for agencies' comprehensive strategic plans would require significant additional resources. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues. H.R. 3826 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Matthew Pickford. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.